



*State Senator*  
**Louis C.  
DeLuca**

## HOME HEATING ASSISTANCE

During the recent Special Session, the General Assembly passed legislation (SB 2100) An Act Concerning Heating Assistance. With a long, cold winter predicted, this legislation is aimed at helping you manage the high costs of heating your home. Some of the highlights of this legislation are outlined below.

- Under this legislation, benefits offered under both the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) and the Contingency Heating Assistance Program (CHAP) are increased.
- A new program under the Home Energy Assistance and Reimbursements for Tune-ups on Heating Equipment (HEARTH) provides a reimbursement of up to \$50 per household to eligible contractors who provide home heating equipment tune-ups and install or provide water heater blankets, window film, or programmable thermostats.
- From November 25, 2005 to April 1, 2006, the following products are exempt from the 6% sales tax: insulation; programmable thermostats; water heater blankets; window film; window and door weather strips; caulking; water heaters, gas furnaces, and windows that meet federal Energy Star standards; and oil furnaces that are at least 85% efficient.

For more information on these programs, contact Infoline at 211, the Department of Social Services winter heating assistance line at 1-800-842-1132, or [www.dss.state.ct.us](http://www.dss.state.ct.us). If I can be of assistance with this or any state matter, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Louis C. DeLuca